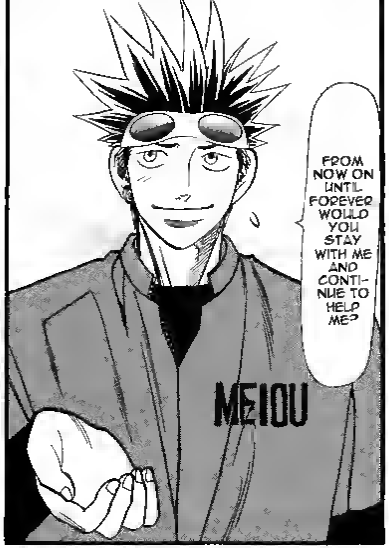
CHAPTER 151:
WASH YOUR HEAD TOO

MASATO FUKUSAKU PRESENTS

I OWE YOU ONE, RIN-SAN
NOGAMI ANIMAL PARK
WE DID IT...!

TE TES-SHOU
DESPITE BEING A NEWBIE, YOU'VE GOT AN AMAZING TALENT THERE!
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT THE MALE LION FROM EAGLE'S INTO THIS CAGE WITH HER!
IF RIN-SAN HADN'T SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET THIS FAR
TES-SHOU
YOU HAD AN AMAZING TALENT AFTER ALL.
ton
NORAO

MOGAMI ANIMAL PARK
EH... COULD THAT MAYBE MEAN...?


FROM NOW ON UNTIL FOREVER WOULD YOU STAY WITH ME AND CONTINUE TO HELP ME?
MEIOU

TES-SHOU!
DON'T MAKE ME SAY ANY MORE THAN THAT, I'LL GET EMBARRASSED

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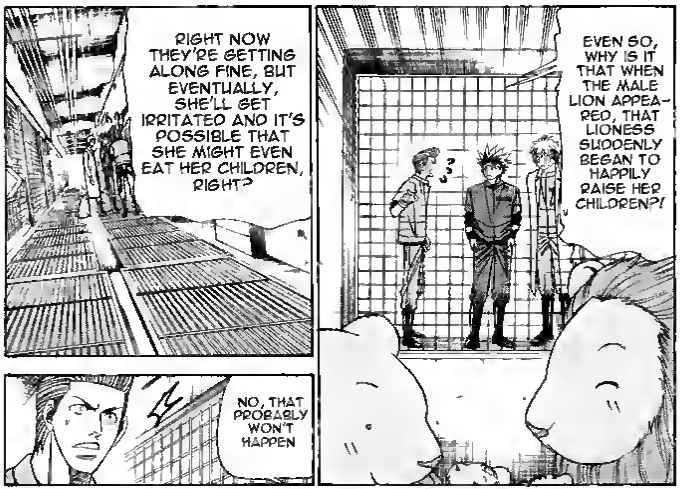
SFX EHEHE...

MOGAMI ANIMAL PARK
HMM... ISN'T IT FINE? SHE SEEMS PRETTY HAPPY AFTER ALL...
S- SHE'S GRINNING ALL ON HER OWN AGAIN, BUT IS SHE ALRIGHT?
This person...
EVEN THOUGH SHE'S A BEAUT, WHAT A WASTE

NORMALLY, LIONESSES BECOME CRANKY AFTER GIVING BIRTH, AND EVEN IF THEY MEET THEIR HUSBAND OR SIBLINGS OR PARENTS, THEY'LL JUST FIND THEM TO BE IN THE WAY, RIGHT?
RATHER, MORE IMPORTANTLY, DR. TESSHOU!
JUST THIS ONCE, EVEN AFTER SEEING IT MYSELF, I'M NOT CONVINCED AT ALL!


RIGHT NOW THEY'RE GETTING ALONG FINE, BUT EVENTUALLY, SHE'LL GET IRRITATED AND IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SHE MIGHT EVEN EAT HER CHILDREN, RIGHT?
EVEN SO, WHY IS IT THAT WHEN THE MALE LION APPEARED, THAT LIONESS SUDDENLY BEGAN TO HAPPILY RAISE HER CHILDREN?!
NO, THAT PROBABLY WON'T HAPPEN

BECAUSE THIS LIONESS.....

!?
UNLIKE THE WILD LIONS WHO CREATE PRIDES, LIONS BEING KEPT BY ZOOS DON'T NECESSARILY HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF COMPANIONS.
WAS JUST LONELY AFTER ALL!
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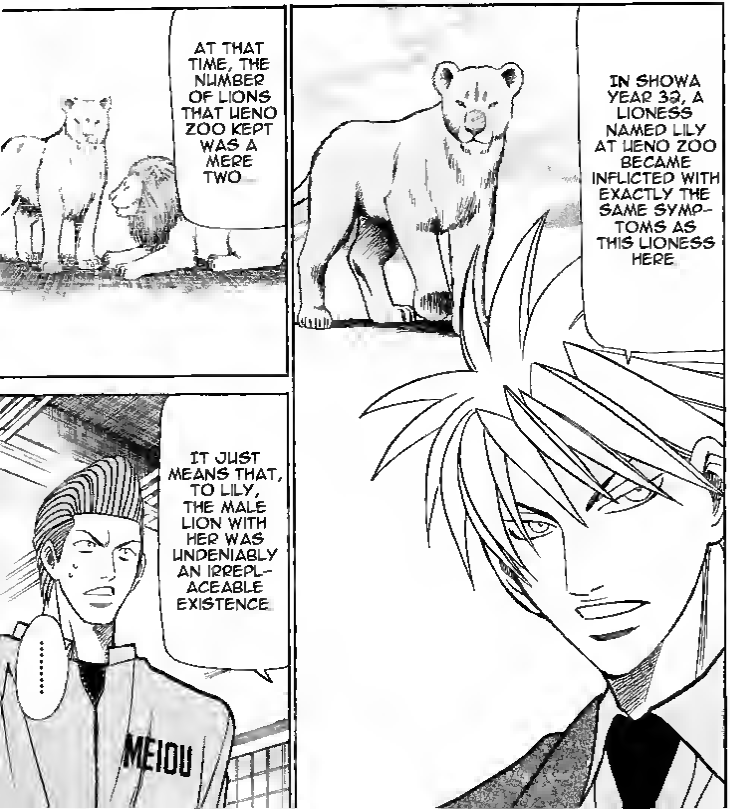
THAT'S WHY, TO THIS LIONESS, THIS MALE IS...

NOT ONLY A LOVER,
BUT HER BEST FRIEND AND COMPANION AS WELL.
SFX UFUFU..
HE'S AN IRREPLACEABLE EXISTENCE.
THAT'S RIGHT, JUST LIKE ME AND TESSHOU
NO, BUT
IT'S AS TESSHOU-KUN SAYS, WAGA-KUN
MEIOU
MEIOU

RATHER, WHY ARE YOU HERE?
PP PROFE-SSOR RYOUTO!
IYAA, SOMEHOW TODAY IT FELT LIKE I'D GET SOME TROUBLESOME WORK PUSHED ONTO ME BY DIRECTOR AZAMA IF I STAYED AT THE UNIVERSITY...

SO I RAN HERE UNDER THE GUISE OF HELPING YOU GUYS.
HA HAA
HE SO HONESTLY AND ABRUPTLY CONFESSED TO SUCH AN AMAZING WAY OF SLACKING THAT EVEN WAGA'S BECOME COMPLETELY BEWILDERED
YOU'RE YOUNG WAGA
I had a time like that too!
Even though your age aren't all that different

AS EXPE-CTED
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT HE JUST IGNORES THAT AND STARTS GOING ON ABOUT AN ENTIRELY DIFF-ERENT TOPIC!
!
ZZzzz
ACTUA-LLY IN THE PAST...


AT THAT TIME, THE NUMBER OF LIONS THAT UENO ZOO KEPT WAS A MERE TWO...
IN SHOWA YEAR 32, A LIONESS NAMED LILY AT UENO ZOO BECAME INFLICTED WITH EXACTLY THE SAME SYMP-TOMS AS THIS LIONESS HERE
IT JUST MEANS THAT, TO LILY, THE MALE LION WITH HER WAS UNDENIABLY AN IRREPL-ACEABLE EXISTENCE
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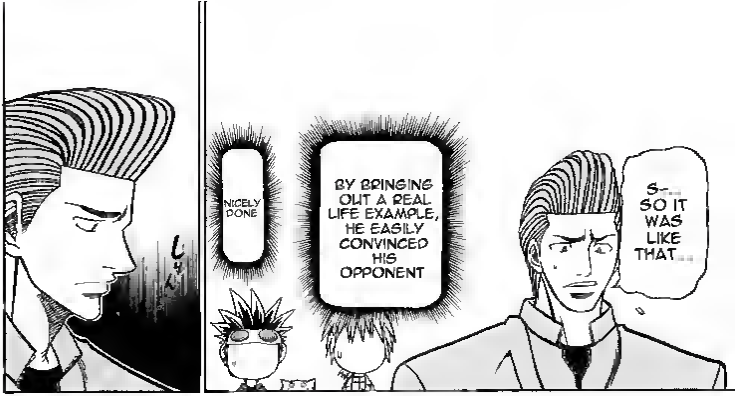
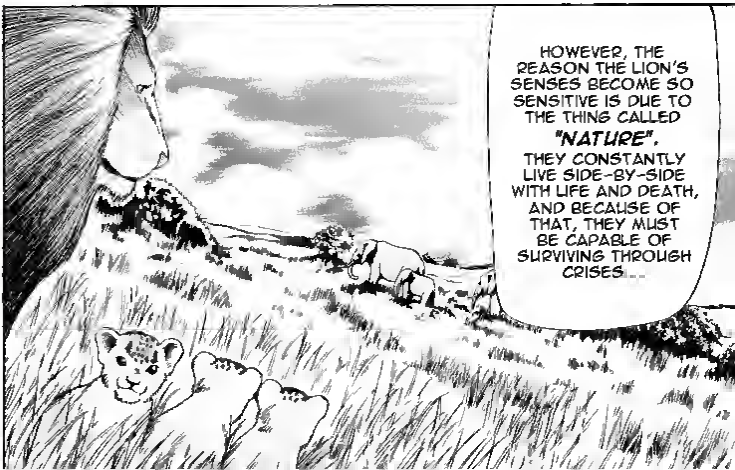
MEIOU


S... SO IT WAS LIKE THAT...
BY BRINGING OUT A REAL LIFE EXAMPLE, HE EASILY CONVINCED HIS OPPONENT
NICELY DONE

IT'S TRUE THAT, LIKE YOU SAID, LIONS ARE WILD ANIMALS
AFTER GIVING BIRTH, THEY BECOME IRRITABLE AND OFTEN TREAT THEIR MATES AND COMPANIONS AS NUISANCES, OR EVEN EAT THEIR OWN CHILDREN


HOWEVER, THE REASON THE LION'S SENSES BECOME SO SENSITIVE IS DUE TO THE THING CALLED "NATURE". THEY CONSTANTLY LIVE SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH LIFE AND DEATH, AND BECAUSE OF THAT, THEY MUST BE CAPABLE OF SURVIVING THROUGH CRISES...

DO YOU UNDERSTAND NO?
!
—AH
THAT ABSOLUTELY DOES NOT MEAN THAT LIONS THEMSELVES ARE CRUEL ANIMALS!

RATHER ISN'T THAT GOING TOO FAR...
AND FOR THE FINAL BLOW HE COMPLETELY LECTURES HIM...
YES... I UNDERSTAND QUITE WELL...

OH TESSHOU...
THIS TIME AROUND, NOT EVEN I WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IT ALONE!
DON'T GET SO DOWN, WAGA!
I WAS HOPING THAT I HAO GROWN BIT BY BIT, BUT NO MATTER HOW MUCH TIME PASSES, I CAN'T EVEN HOPE TO REACH OR TESSHOU'S FEET...
...AHH... I REALLY AM NO GOOD...

AFTER ALL, IT'S THANKS TO RIN-SAN BEING HERE THAT WE MANAGED TO...
WAIT, HUH?
WHERE'S RIN-SAN?
ゴリラ館

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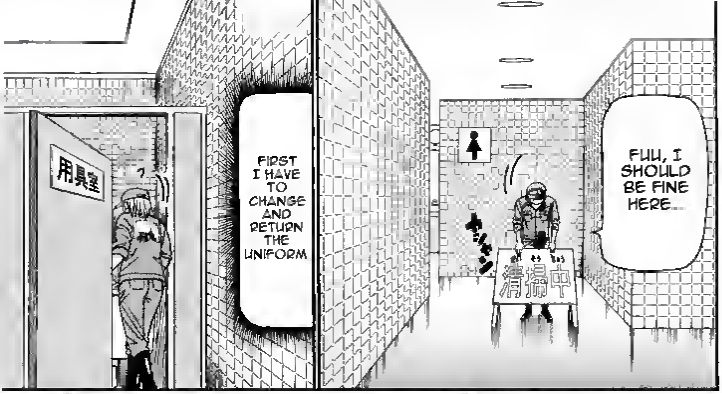
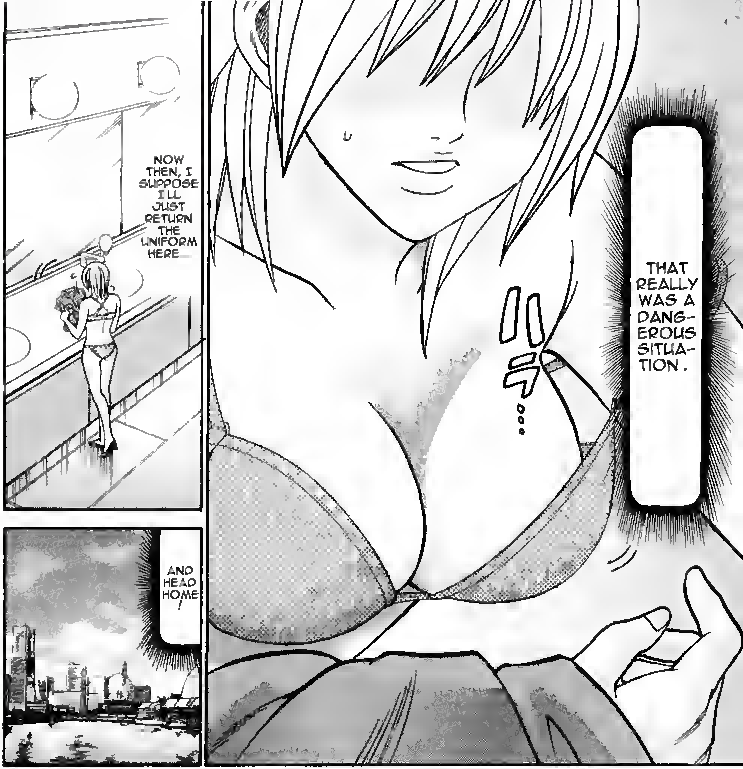
HIGASHI ANIMAL PARK
HAA HAA...

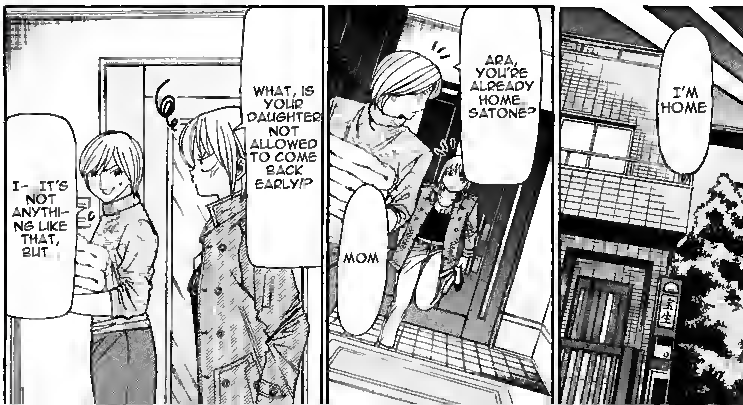


SIGN: EQUIPMENT ROOM

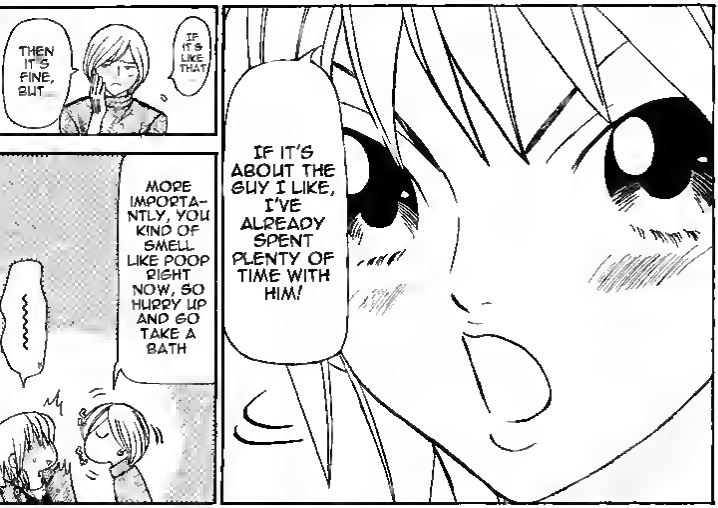
SIGN: CURRENTLY CLEANING

TO THINK THAT DR RYOUTO WOULD'VE COME...
BUT, EARLIER REALLY WAS A SURPR-ISE...
IF IT'S THAT GUY, HE'D PROBABLY SEE THROUGH A POOR DISGUISE LIKE THIS IN A SINGLE GLANCE..


NOW THEN, I SUPPOSE I'LL JUST RETURN THE UNIFORM HERE...
THAT REALLY WAS A DANGEROUS SITUATION.
AND HEAD HOME!


I'M HOME
ARA, YOU'RE ALREADY HOME SATONE?
MOM
WHAT, IS YOUR DAUGHTER NOT ALLOWED TO COME BACK EARLY!?
I- IT'S NOT ANYTHING LIKE THAT, BUT

ISN'T TODAY YOUR BIRTH-DAY?
YOU'RE ALREADY AROUND THAT AGE, SO IF YOU WENT OUT TO EAT WITH SOME-ONE YOU LIKED AND RETURNED LATE, IT WOULD BE OKAY—
OH, BE QUIET~ IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSIN-ESS!


IF IT'S ABOUT THE GUY I LIKE, I'VE ALREADY SPENT PLENTY OF TIME WITH HIM!
IF IT'S LIKE THAT...
THEN IT'S FINE, BUT...
MORE IMPORTA-NTLY, YOU KIND OF SMELL LIKE POOP RIGHT NOW, SO HURRY UP AND GO TAKE A BATH

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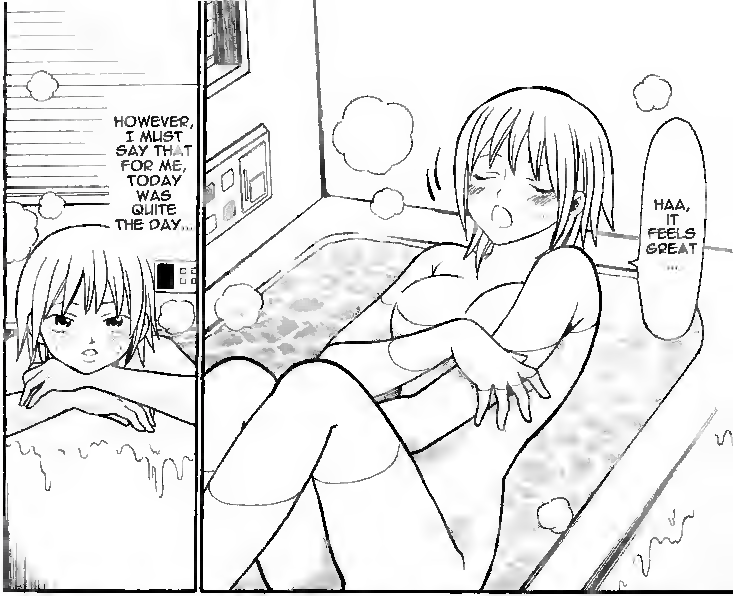
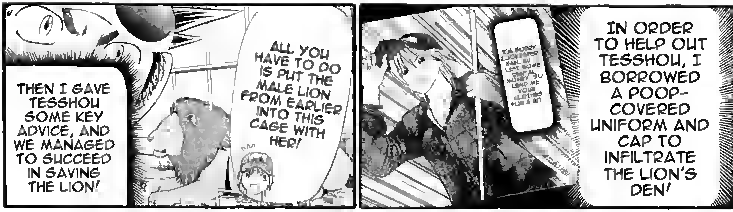
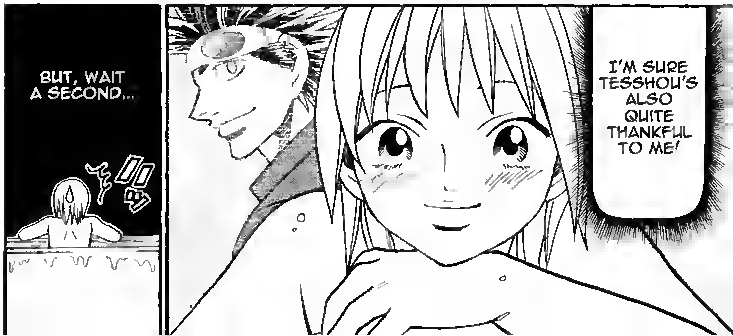

HOWEVER, I MUST SAY THAT FOR ME, TODAY WAS QUITE THE DAY...
HAA, IT FEELS GREAT...


THEN I GAVE TESSHOU SOME KEY ADVICE, AND WE MANAGED TO SUCCEED IN SAVING THE LION!
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PUT THE MALE LION FROM EARLIER INTO THIS CAGE WITH HER!
IN ORDER TO HELP OUT TESSHOU, I BORROWED A POOP-COVERED UNIFORM AND CAP TO INFILTRATE THE LION'S DEN!


BUT, WAIT A SECOND...
I'M SURE TESSHOU'S ALSO QUITE THANKFUL TO ME!

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, THE ONE TESSHOU'S THANKFUL TOWARDS WOULD BE RIN-SAN AND NOT ME!!!
I-I'M RIN SAFU! IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!!
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF I WAS THE ONE TESSHOU WAS THANKFUL TOWARDS, RIGHT?

OH? WE HAVE A GUEST
WHO KNOWS
SAY, DAD, DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT CHILD'S OKAY
She's yelling in the bath

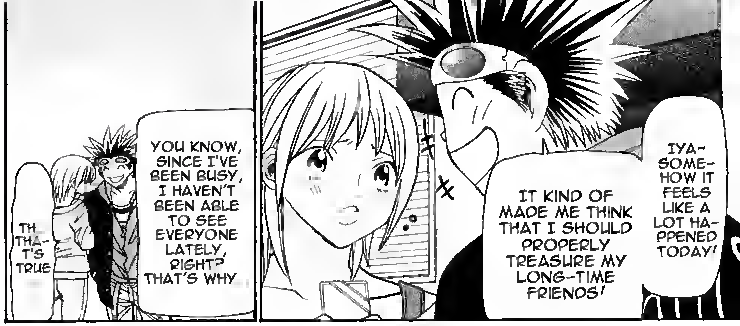
SFX AHHHHH~~

SATO-NE~! YOU HAVE A GUEST
EH? WHO COULD IT BE, AT THIS TIME OF DAY, WITH-OUT ANY PRIOR WARNING
WELL, AT LEAST WE MANAGED TO SAVE THE LION, SO I GUESS IT'S FINE
HAA

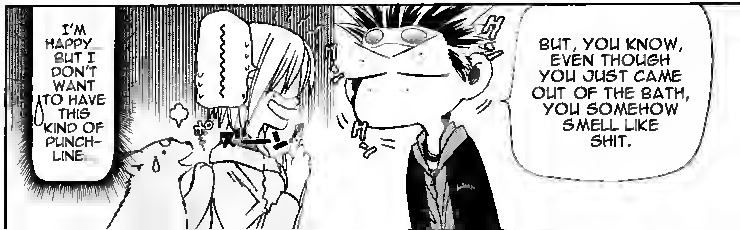
I'M IN THE BATH RIGHT NOW, SO COULD YOU ASK THEM TO COME AGAIN LATER FOR ME?
ALR-IGHT!
REA-LLY, I WON-DER WHO IT IS?
I'M SO SORRY~ SHE'S IN THE BATH RIGHT NOW.
Even though I called ever for the first time in a while~
I SEE~ THEN I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN...

WAIT, ISN'T THIS VOICE TESSH-OU'S!?
WA.... WAIT, MOM! TELL HIM I'M COMING OUT RIGHT NOW!
EHH? EHHH ~?
Just what is it~
I...I STILL HAVEN'T WASHED MY HAIR, BUT...AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THERE'S NO HELPING IT!

LONG TIME NO SEE!
Y-YEAH, BUT WHAT IS IT, SO SUDDENLY?
WA-WAIT A SEC, TESS-HOU!
OHH, HOU-JOU!
IF I CAN RECALL, TODAY WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY, RIGHT?
!
WH-WHA-T'S THIS ABO-UT?
THAT'S WHY HERE.
I BOUGHT IT AT THE ZOO I DID AN EXAMI-NATION AT TODAY! IT'S PRETTY CUTE, RIGHT?
Y-YE-AH...


IYA~ SOME-HOW IT FEELS LIKE A LOT HA-PPENED TODAY!
IT KIND OF MAOE ME THINK THAT I SHOULD PROPERLY TREASURE MY LONG-TIME FRIENDS!
YOU KNOW, SINCE I'VE BEEN BUSY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SEE EVERYONE LATELY, RIGHT? THAT'S WHY
TH THA-T'S TRUE

EVEN IF IT'S JUST AS FRIENDS..... RIGHT NOW, I'M HAPPY ENOUGH...


BUT, YOU KNOW, EVEN THOUGH YOU JUST CAME OUT OF THE BATH, YOU SOMEHOW SMELL LIKE SHIT.
スーン
I'M HAPPY BUT I DON'T WANT TO HAVE THIS KIND OF PUNCH-LINE.

I hope you enjoyed the chapter!!

Credits

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